Dear ACOM,

With respect to the ICES technical guidelines ‘12.5 Criteria for the use of data in ICES advisory work’ published in December 2016, we write to inform you of the intention to collect data suitable for use as a basis for ICES advice.

In particular, we refer to data collected during joint industry-science surveys of herring in divisions 6a, 7bc from 2017 onwards. Prior to the publication of the criteria, similar data were collected in 2016 and have been presented and reviewed at ICES WGIPS and ICES HAWG and documented in the reports published in 2017.

In accordance with the criteria defined in the guidelines:

1. We advise that unbiased access to and use of the full data set for analysis in support of scientific advice will be given to relevant persons.

2. We request that ICES informs us as to the expert group and persons with whom a prior written agreement should be made regarding the resolution and associated information of the data to be collected.

Yours sincerely,

Sean O’Donoghue
Chairman Working Group II